

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2686 without my signature.

This bill is unnecessary because school districts currently have the ability to implement a school lunch program that offers more low-fat options along with nutritional posting without the enactment of this measure.

I have long been committed to the physical health and fitness for kids and adults alike for many years and am concerned that childhood obesity rates have increased dramatically. Every child should be encouraged to pursue a healthy and active lifestyle. However, simply providing parents and students with nutritional information can only make a marginal change in behavior, unless it is coupled with more enforceable mechanisms.

The State should tackle important child obesity and health issues in a comprehensive manner, instead of the piecemeal approach to regulating nutrition in schools, as this bill contemplates.

For these reasons, I am unable to sign this measure.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger